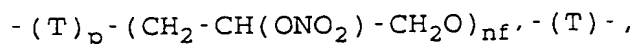
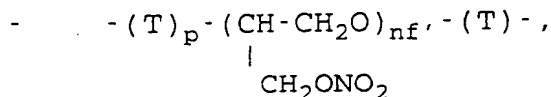


CLAIMS

1. A process for obtaining nitroxyalkylesters of the 2-(S)-(6-methoxy-2-naphthyl)-propanoic acid having an enantiomeric excess higher than or equal to 97%, preferably higher than or equal to 98%, characterized in that an halide of the 2-(S)-(6-methoxy-2-naphthyl)-propanoic acid of formula A-Hal, wherein A is the acyl residue of the acid, is let react in an inert organic solvent with an aliphatic nitroxyalkanol HO-Y-ONO₂, wherein Y has one of the following meanings:

- a linear or optionally branched C₁-C₂₀, preferably C₂-C₅, alkylene, or
- a cycloalkylene with ring from 3 to 8 carbon atoms, preferably from 5 to 7 carbon atoms, said cycloalkylene optionally substituted with one or two alkylenes as above defined, and/or with one or more alkyl radicals having in the chain a number of carbon atoms as above defined for alkylene;
- an aromatic residue with ring having 5 or 6 carbon atoms, said aromatic residue optionally substituted with one or two alkylenes as above defined, and/or with one or more alkyl radicals having in the chain a number of carbon atoms as above defined for alkylene, or a -COOH group;



T being alkylene as above defined and p an integer equal to zero or one, alkylene having the above mentioned meaning, nf' is an integer from 1 to 6, preferably from 1 to 4;

in the presence of an inorganic base, to give the corresponding nitroxyalkylester of the 2-(S)-(6-methoxy-2-naphthyl)-propanoic acid of formula A-O-Y-ONO₂, wherein A and Y are as above defined.

2. A process according to claim 1, wherein the aliphatic nitroxyalcohol amount on molar basis is in the range 1-2, preferably 1.2-1.5, with respect to that of the acid halide.

A process according to claims 1 and 2, wherein the inorganic bases are hydroxides, oxides, carbonates and bicarbonates, silicates, aluminosilicates of the alkaline and alkaline-earth metals, or hydroxides, oxides, carbonates and bicarbonates of metals belonging to the group IIB, preferably zinc, or to groups IIIa or IVa, preferably tin.

4. A process according to claims 1-3, wherein the inorganic base amount is in molar ratio with the acid halide amount in the range 1-2, preferably 1.2-1.5.

Sub^{b3}
All

5. A process according to claims 1-4, wherein the reaction is carried out at a temperature in the range -20°C and 50°C , preferably 0°C and 20°C .

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